

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

ROBERT WHARTON,

Petitioner,

v.

JAMIE SORBER, et al.,

Respondents.

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CIVIL ACTION

No. 01-6049

CAPITAL CASE

**PETITIONER'S RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS
OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
RESPECTING ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PARTICIPATION**

Petitioner Wharton submits this response respecting the submission of the District Attorney (ECF No. 226) and response of the Attorney General (ECF No. 229). Mr. Wharton previously argued that the Attorney General's contemplated participation in this matter exceeded the proper function of an amicus curiae and effectively amounted to intervention as a party. *See* ECF No. 166 at 5 (June 12, 2019), ECF No. 180 at 19-20 (Aug. 23, 2019). The Court ruled that the Attorney General's participation was not the equivalent of intervention. *See* Order, July 30, 2019, ECF No. 174, at ¶ 5.

Mr. Wharton agrees with the District Attorney that the nature of the Attorney General's participation in the first day of testimony in this matter was functionally indistinguishable from that of a party. In effect, the Attorney General has intervened without satisfying the rule governing intervention:

(b) Permissive Intervention.

(1) *In General*. On timely motion, the court may permit anyone to intervene who:

(A) is given a conditional right to intervene by a federal statute; or

(B) has a claim or defense that shares with the main action a common question of law or fact.

(2) *By a Government Officer or Agency.* On timely motion, the court may permit a federal or state governmental officer or agency to intervene if a party's claim or defense is based on:

(A) a statute or executive order administered by the officer or agency; or

(B) any regulation, order, requirement, or agreement issued or made under the statute or executive order.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 24. The Attorney General has no interest in this case that would satisfy any of these criteria. For this reason, and for those set forth in Mr. Wharton's previous submissions in this case, he adheres to his opposition to the Attorney General's participation.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Elizabeth McHugh
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Dated: March 2, 2021
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this date I caused a copy of the foregoing to be filed and served upon the following persons by ECF:

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DATE: March 2, 2021